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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - MARCH 1992

Rhode Island nonagricultural wage and salary jobs increased in March as an overall monthly gain (+1,400) in the Service Producing industries more than offset a decline (-400) in the Goods Producing sector. The March job total of 413,200 reflected a monthly upturn of 1,000 but an annual reduction of 7,200.

Employment among the Service Producing industries advanced 1,400 over the month to the March level of 315,300; however, this figure remained 100 below the March 1991 job total. The bulk of the monthly job increase was concentrated in Government which rose by 900 primarily due to gains in the local government segment. Miscellaneous Services employment recorded a monthly upturn of 300, followed by increases of 100 each in Wholesale/Retail Trade and Transportation & Public Utilities. Employment in Finance, Insurance & Real Estate was unchanged from February to March.

The number of jobs in the Goods Producing sector totalled 97,900 in March, representing a drop of 400 from the previous month and 7,100 from the March 1991 level. Contract Construction employment was estimated at 10,900 in March, reflecting a seasonal increase of 100. On an annual basis, however, employment in this industry was down 1,700. Manufacturing employment continued its downtrend, dropping to 87,000 in March, showing a decrease of 500 from February and 5,400 compared to a year ago. Manufacturers of Durable Goods reported a monthly loss of 400, while employment in Nondurable Goods was off 100. Within the factory sector, the only monthly job gain (+100) occurred in Textiles. This upturn was overshadowed by monthly declines in Electrical Machinery (-200), Lumber/Furniture, Instruments, Food-Beverage and Printing-Publishing (-100 each). Job totals for the thirteen remaining manufacturing industries - seven in Durable Goods and six in Nondurable Goods - showed no change from February.

The March workweek averaged 39.7 hours, down 0.1 of an hour from the prior month, but unchanged from the March 1991 level. Production workers averaged $9.76 per hour in March, up five cents compared to the February figure and one cent compared to a year ago.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate climbed to 8.1 percent in March, representing an increase of four-tenths of a percentage point from the February estimate of 7.7 percent. The state's unadjusted rate also posted a monthly increase - from 8.3 percent in February to 8.9 percent in March. Correspondingly, the March jobless total rose to 46,000, showing an increase of 3,500 from the February level. One year ago, the Rhode Island adjusted and unadjusted rates stood at 7.9 and 8.7 percent, respectively, while the number of unemployed was estimated at 44,600.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate in March was unchanged from the February estimate of 7.3 percent. The unadjusted U.S. rate decreased to 7.7 percent in March from the previous month's estimate of 8.1 percent. One year ago the unemployment rates for the nation were estimated at 6.7 percent (adjusted) and 7.1 percent (unadjusted).

***REMINDER*: TDI Exemption** - *Minors 14 and 15 years of age are exempted from paying Temporary Disability Insurance contributions and receiving TDI benefits.*

REPORTING QUARTERLY WAGE RECORD INFORMATION

All employers who have two hundred or more employees are required to file quarterly wage record information (detailed listing of employees' earnings) on magnetic tape. If you have less than 100 employees and an IBM compatible system that can produce diskettes, DET will provide you with a free software package which can be used to report your quarterly wages. Once the wage file is set in place, you need only update it at the end of each quarter. Spin the report out to a 5 1/4" or 3 1/2" diskette and mail it to the Department of Employment and Training, P.O. Box 1029, Providence, RI 02901-1029. If you have between 100 and 200 employees and wish to report electronically, you must submit your quarterly wages on magnetic tape. (Diskette will not hold more than 100 employees.)

Questions concerning the reporting of wages on either magnetic tape or diskette should be directed to the Wage Record Unit at (401) 277-3521.

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

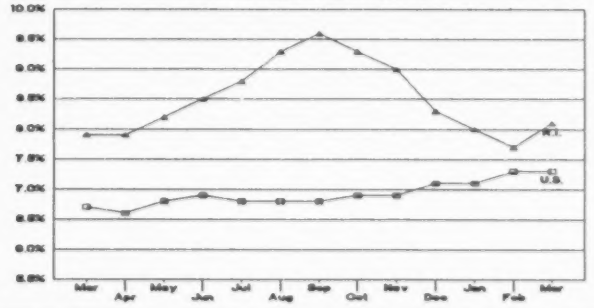
RHODE ISLAND
Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1992	Feb.* 1992	Mar.* 1991	
Civilian Labor Force	514.0	511.8	512.1	
Resident Employment	468.1	469.3	467.5	
Unemployment	46.0	42.5	44.6	
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.9	8.3	8.7	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	8.1	7.7	7.9	*Revised

UNITED STATES
Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1992	Feb. 1992	Mar. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	125,797	125,386	124,443
Resident Employment	116,106	115,224	115,639
Unemployment	9,691	10,161	8,804
Rate (Unadjusted)	7.7	8.1	7.1
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.3	7.3	6.7

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
Seasonally Adjusted, Mar. 91 – Mar. 92



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Mar. 1992	Feb. 1992	Mar. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM Feb. 1992	Mar. 1991
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	413.2	412.2	420.4	+ 1000	- 7200
GOODS PRODUCING	97.9	98.3	105.0	- 400	- 7100
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	10.9	10.8	12.6	+ 100	- 1700
MANUFACTURING	87.0	87.5	92.4	- 500	- 5400
SERVICE PRODUCING	315.3	313.9	315.4	+ 1400	- 100
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	14.3	14.2	14.6	+ 100	- 300
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	84.9	84.8	86.8	+ 100	- 1900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25.2	25.2	26.6	-----	- 1400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	128.4	128.1	124.2*	+ 300	+ 4200
GOVERNMENT	62.5	61.6	63.2	+ 900	- 700

*Labor Dispute

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

MARCH 1992

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	87.0	387.47	39.7	9.76
DURABLE MFG.	58.2	381.91	39.7	9.62
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.2	416.21	37.7	11.04
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.1	425.17	40.3	10.55
PRIMARY METALS	3.4	435.28	42.8	10.17
FABRICATED METALS	7.2	348.15	38.3	9.09
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.1	524.92	44.0	11.93
ELECTRICAL MACH.	4.4	378.74	39.7	9.54
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	6.4	485.69	41.3	11.76
INSTRUMENTS	6.1	424.99	38.6	11.01
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	17.3	301.44	38.4	7.85
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.0	377.88	40.2	9.40
NONDURABLE MFG.	28.8	399.99	39.8	10.05
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.8	407.00	39.4	10.33
TEXTILES	7.7	377.56	43.1	8.76
APPAREL	1.1	249.56	36.7	6.80
PAPER PRODUCTS	1.8	390.10	41.5	9.40
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.3	468.25	31.3	14.96
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	467.53	40.2	11.63
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.6	443.12	38.7	11.45
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	433.49	40.4	10.73
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.4	280.40	40.0	7.01

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.